CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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OUNTRY	Germany (Berlin)	REPORT NO.	25X1
JBJECT	Background of Berlin Riots	DATE DISTR. 30 June	1953
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1.	Government officials in the Russian sec	or of Berlin told	
25X1	that workers demonstrations were planned for the following day to give an		
	appearance of democratic unity between	the government and the population.	·
	According to the plan, construction wor	kers of a Stalinallee brigade (bel	Lieved
	to be Brigade No. 70), about 170 men in	all, were to drop work and march	through
	the heart of the city, demanding the ab	clition of the increase in work no	orms,
-	the payment of back wages, and improven	ent of the distribution of consum	er goods.
	Minister Fritz Selbmann was to grant th	e workers' demands, after which t	he
	demonstrators were to return to work.		
2.	When the demonstration took place on 16 June, after Selbmann's speech the brigade		
,	leader declared that the demands had be	en met and the brigade raised a s	ign ex-
	horting the demonstrators to return to	work. At this point a worker pus	hed Selb-
	mann aside and the demonstration got o	at of hand.	
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